

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 EC BRU 03415 031253Z

42

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 IO-11 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07

FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00

PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 /098 W
----- 047813

O R 031208Z APR 76

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 923

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 1962

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE EC BRUSSELS 03415

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EEC

SUBJECT: EC COMMISSION POSITION ON SHOE ESCAPE CLAUSE CASE

REF: A) STATE 69645, B) EC BRUSSELS 2767

1. SOAMES' CHEF DE CABINET DAVID HANNAY TOLD DCM ON APRIL 2 THAT HE HAD SPOKEN BY PHONE THAT DAY TO HEAD OF EC WASHINGTON DEL SPAAK AND HAD CONVEYED TO HIM FOLLOWING CLARIFICATION OF EC POSITION:

A) THE ONLY FORMAL COMMISSION POSITION ON THIS SUBJECT IS THAT CONTAINED IN THEIR ORIGINAL NOTE (SEE REF A);

B) THE FOUR-POINT PORPOSAL ON TARIFF QUOTAS (REF B) REPRESENTED AN "ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL OBSERVATION" OFFERED IN THE NAME OF THE COMMUNITY

(APPROVED BY THE ARTICLE 113 COMMITTEE) AS TO WHICH KIND OF ACTION WOULD BE LEAST DAMAGING TO THE COMMUNITY SHOULD THE PRESIDENT FEEL COMPELLED TO TAKE RESTRICTIVE ACTION;

C) THAT SAID, THE US SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT RESTRICTIVE ACTION OF ANY KIND CONTAINED THE POTENTIAL FOR A "FRIGHTFUL ROW ON THE POLITICAL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 EC BRU 03415 031253Z

LEVEL." REGARDLESS OF THE "ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL" ASPECTS

OF THE LEAST DAMAGING OPTION, THERE WOULD BE CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTY IN EXPLAINING TO THE ITALIAN PRODUCERS AND SHOE WORKERS THAT THE MEASURE WAS JUSTIFIED AT ALL. GIVEN THE HIGHLY SENSITIVE DOMESTIC SITUATION IN THE SHOE-PRODUCING REGIONS OF ITALY, THERE IS A HIGH POSSIBILITY THAT RESTRICTIVE ACTION OF ANY KIND WOULD CAUSE REAL POLITICAL DAMAGE IN OUR RELATIONSHIP. AT THE VERY LEAST, HANNAY SAID, THE COMMUNITY WOULD HAVE TO MAKE CLEAR ITS "DISLIKE" OF SUCH ACTION AND, INDEED, MIGHT HAVE TO REACT VERY FORCEFULLY.

2. HANNAY'S EXPLANATION AS TO WHY THE "ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL" SIGNAL HAD BEEN GIVEN AT ALL WAS THAT COMMISSION OFFICIALS LEARNED THAT THE ITALIANS WERE ON THE VERGE OF MAKING A UNILATERAL MOVE TO INFORM US OF THEIR TARIFF QUOTA CONDITIONS AND THAT THEY HAD DECIDED IT WAS PREFERABLE TO MAKE IT A COMMUNITY-WIDE POINT OF VIEW RATHER THAN ONE OF JUST A SINGLE MEMBER STATE. REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THIS WAS A WISE MOVE AT THE TIME, HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE VIEWS WHICH HE EXPRESSED TO SPAAK AND TO DCM, REPRESENTED THE CONSIDERED VIEWS OF BOTH SOAMES AND GUNDELACH. HINTON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, FOOTWEAR, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, TRADE CONTROLS, ESCAPE CLAUSE (TARIFF)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ECBRU03415
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760126-0404
From: EC BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t197604101/aaaadioa.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 69645, 76 EC BRUSSELS 2767
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 MAR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <31 MAR 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EC COMMISSION POSITION ON SHOE ESCAPE CLAUSE CASE
TAGS: ETRD, EPAP, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006